IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows.

1. (Previously Presented) A network-based commerce system including:

> a processor coupled to a memory through a bus; and

> an auction price-setting process executed from the memory by the processor to cause the

processor to receive a question associated with a listing for an item during the auction price-

setting process, and to provide an answer to the question via a communications network, the

providing of the answer including publishing the question and the answer on the listing for the

item.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Previously Presented) The network-based commerce system of claim 1, wherein the auction

price-setting process further causes the processor, when providing the answer to provide the

answer to the question via an electronic mail message over the communications network.

4. (Previously Presented) The network-based commerce system of claim 1, wherein the auction

price-setting process further causes the processor, when the receiving the question, to receive

the question from a bidder over the communications network.

5. (Previously Presented) A network-based commerce system including:

> a means for receiving a question associated with a listing for an item during an auction

price-setting process; and

> a means for providing an answer to the question via a communications

network, the providing of the answer including publishing the question and the answer on the

listing for the item.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Original) The network-based commerce system of claim 5, wherein the means for providing includes providing the answer to the question via an electronic mail message over the communications network.

8. (Original) The network-based commerce system of claim 5, wherein the means for receiving includes receiving the question from a bidder over the communications network.

9. (Previously Presented) A machine-readable medium having instructions to cause a machine to perform a method to facilitate operation of a network-based commerce system, the method including:

   receiving a question associated with a listing for an item during an auction price-setting process; and

   providing an answer to the question via a communications network, the providing of the answer including publishing the question and the answer on the listing for the item.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Original) The machine-readable medium of claim 9, wherein the providing includes providing the answer to the question via an electronic mail message over the communications network.

12. (Original) The machine-readable medium of claim 9, wherein the receiving includes receiving the question from a bidder over the communications network.

13. (Previously Presented) A method to facilitate operation of a network-based commerce system, the method including:

   receiving a question associated with a listing for an item during an auction price-setting process; and

   providing an answer to the question via a communications network, the providing of the answer including publishing the question and the answer on the listing for the item.

14. (Cancelled)   ＼

15. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein the providing includes providing the answer to the question via an electronic mail message over the communications network.

16. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein the receiving includes receiving the question from a bidder over the communications network.